

CV# 742

EXHIBIT NO. _____

Doc. No. 2660

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INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.)	
)	
vs.)	SS AFFIDAVIT
)	
ARAKI, Sadao, et al.)	

I, Torashiro KAWABE (56 years old), state, under oath, as follows:-

1. I, Lieutenant-General Torashiro KAWABE, was the Deputy Chief of General Staff from April 1945 till October of the same year. At that time the Chief of General Staff was General Yoshijiro UMEDZU.

2. The decision concerning the surrender was made by His Majesty the Emperor on August 13, 1945. On August 14, 1945, the decision concerning the surrender was communicated to the Allied Powers by radio. The formal signature of surrender was made by Japanese representatives on September 2, 1945.

3. All of the secret and top-secret documents and records of the General Staff had been burned in Tokyo during the time from August 13, 1945 until the day we received from the Allied Powers the orders prohibiting the burning of documents.

Among the documents burned were documents of mobilization plans, military operation plans, and the documents referring to the guidance of the war, as well as records of Supreme War Council.

At that time the burning of secret and top-secret documents was done by persons whose ranks were lower than those of the chiefs of sections of the Army General Staff.

When the documents were burned. General UMEDZU, Chief of Army General Staff, was in Tokyo.

I do not know whether or not any written or oral orders were issued concerning the destruction of all documents of the Army General Staff Office.

Furthermore, I do not know whether or not any documents of Japanese General Staff have been concealed.

(Signed) Torashiro KAWABE

Sworn and subscribed to before the undersigned officer by the above-named Kawabe, Torashiro, at the War Ministry Building, Tokyo, Japan, this 5th day of September 1946.

ARTHUR A. SANDUSKY
Captain, J.A.G.D.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Raymond K. Nimura, hereby certify that I am fully conversant with the Japanese and English languages, and that this day, the said Kawabe, Torashiro was duly sworn in my presence and signed said Affidavit under oath in my presence; and that all proceedings incidental to the administration of said oath and the signing of said Affidavit were truly and correctly translated from Japanese into English and English into Japanese and fully understood and comprehended by said Affiant.

Dated this 5th day of September, 1946, at Tokyo, Japan.

(Signed by) Raymond K. Nimura
2d Lt. AUS